Application No. 10/547,207 Attorney Docket No. VB60033

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Withdrawn) A nucleic acid molecule encoding a MUC-1 derivative which is capable of raising an immune response in vivo, said response being capable of recognising a MUC-1 expressing tumour, wherein the nucleic acid has a RSCU value for the non-repeat region of at least 0.6 and has a level of identity of less than 85% in comparison with the MUC-1 VNTR nucleotide sequence shown in Figure 9, with respect to the corresponding non-repeat region of wild type MUC-1.

- 2. (Withdrawn) A nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 1 wherein the RSCU is at least 0.65%.
- 3. (Withdrawn) A nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 1 wherein the identity is less than 80%.
- 4. (Withdrawn) A nucleic acid molecule encoding a MUC-1 derivative as claimed in claim 1 having less than 15 perfect repeat units.
- 5. (Withdrawn) A nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 4 having no perfect repeats.
- (Withdrawn) A nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 1 of which is devoid of a signal sequence.
- 7. (Withdrawn) A nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 1 that encodes one or more of the sequences from the group: FLSFHISNL;

 NSSLEDPSTDYYQELQRDISE; and NLTISDVSV.
- 8. (Withdrawn). A nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 1 additionally comprising a heterologous sequence that encodes a T-Helper epitope.

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- 9. (Withdrawn) A nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 1 that is a DNA molecule.
- 10. (Withdrawn) A plasmid comprising the DNA molecule of Claim 1.
- 11. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a nucleic acid as claimed in claim 1 and a pharmaceutical acceptable excipient, diluent or carrier.
- 12. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 11 wherein the carrier is a microparticle.
- 13. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 12 wherein the microparticle is gold.
- 14. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 11 additionally comprising an adjuvant.
- 15. Cancel.
- 16. (previously presented) A method according to claim 17, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is in a pharmacetical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, diluent or carrer.
- 17. (currently amended) A method of treating a MUC-1 over-expressing epithelial cell tumor tumours in a mammal, comprising administering to said mammal a nucleic acid molecule encoding a MUC-1 protein that raises an immune response to MUC-1 in said mammal in vivo, said immune response recognising a MUC-1 over-expressing tumour, wherein the non-repeat region of the nucleic acid molecule has a Relative Synonymous Codon Usage (RSCU) value of at least 0.6 and has a level of nucleotide identity of less than 85% in comparison with the non-repeat region of

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SEQ ID NO:16, where said nucleic acid molecule is administered in an amount effective to raise an immune response to MUC-1.

18. (Withdrawn) A medicament comprising a plasmid as claimed in claim 10.

19-20. Cancel.

- 21. (previously presented) A method according to claim 17 wherein said nucleic acid molecule encodes a MUC-1 protein having fewer than 15 perfect repeat units.
- 22. (previously presented) A method according to claim 17 wherein said nucleic acid molecule encodes a MUC-1 protein having no perfect repeat units.
- 23. (previously presented). A method according to claim 17 wherein said nucleic acid molecule additionally comprises a heterologous sequence that encodes a T-Helper epitope.
- 24. (previously presented) A method according to claim 16 wherein said pharmaceutical composition additionally comprises an adjuvant.
- 25. (previously presented) A method according to claim 17 wherein said nucleic acid molecule is contained within a plasmid.
- 26. (previously presented) A method according to claim 17 wherein said nucleic acid molecule comprises a sequence selected from SEQ ID NO:13 and SEQ ID NO:14.